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Docket No. F-8023

Ser. No. 10/700,850

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A double-layer vacuum container, comprising:  
an outer container;  
an inner container disposed inside the outer container;  
the inner container and the outer container including a vacuum space between  
[[an]] the inner container and [[an]] the outer container constituting forming a metal  
double-layer container, the double-layer vacuum container comprising:  
the outer container having a wall portion defining an outer container aperture;  
the inner container having a bridging member extending therefrom and to the  
outer container so as to extend through the outer container aperture in a bridging  
manner so as to be supported thereby;  
the outer container supporting the bridging member extending from the inner  
container while with the bridging member being extending  
externally exposed via the outer container aperture of the wall portion to an area  
exterior to the outer container;

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the bridging member extending from the inner container, through the outer container aperture and beyond the wall portion defining the outer container aperture with radial support thereof being provided by the outer container; and

a cover member for externally covering [[a]] the wall portion of the outer container through which the bridging member is exposed and for sealing a space inside the cover member and a space between the inner container and the outer container in a vacuum state, between by virtue of a seal between the cover member and the outer container.

2. (Currently Amended) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 1, wherein:

the outer container supports includes a supporting member supporting the bridging member around [[its]] a bridging member axis [[by a]], the supporting member being provided inside the cover member [[,]]; and

the bridging member has a play with is supported with clearance between the outer container and the bridging member defined by the outer container aperture about [[its]] the bridging member axis.

3. (Original) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 2, wherein the inner container and the outer container are bonded at lips thereof and the

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bridging member extends from a bottom of the inner container so as to be exposed through a bottom of the outer container to be supported thereby.

4. (Original) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 3, wherein a heat conduction inhibition hole is provided in the middle of a heat conduction path of a member constituting the heat conduction path from the inner container to the portion where the outer container is externally exposed.

5. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A double-layer vacuum container according to claim 3, wherein, comprising:

an outer container;

an inner container disposed inside the outer container;

the inner container and the outer container including a vacuum space between the inner container and the outer container forming a metal double-layer container;

the outer container having a wall portion defining an outer container aperture;

the inner container having a bridging member extending therefrom and to the outer container so as to extend through the outer container aperture in a bridging manner;

the outer container supporting the bridging member with the bridging member extending

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externally exposed via the outer container aperture of the wall portion to an area exterior to the outer container;

a cover member for externally covering the wall portion of the outer container through which the bridging member is exposed and for sealing a space inside the cover member and a space between the inner container and the outer container in a vacuum state by virtue of a seal between the cover member and the outer container;

the outer container including a supporting member supporting the bridging member around a bridging member axis, the supporting member being provided inside the cover member;

the bridging member being supported with clearance between the outer container and the bridging member defined by the outer container aperture about the bridging member axis;

the inner container and the outer container being bonded at lips thereof and the bridging member extending from a bottom of the inner container so as to be exposed through the outer container; and

the bridging member [[is]] being supported by three or more convex portions of the support member formed by plate working on a cylindrical wall thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 5, wherein the support member has a plurality of leg portions formed in a

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circumferential direction, and is fixed to [[the]] an outer face of the outer container with the plurality of leg portions.

7. (Currently Amended) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 1, wherein:

the outer container includes a supporting member supporting the bridging member; and

the bridging member is fitted into a supporting member in a screw structure for supporting the bridging member.

8. (Currently Amended) A double-layer vacuum container comprising: a double-layer container formed by combination of a metal inner container and a metal outer container so as to have a vacuum space therebetween;

the outer container having a wall portion defining an outer container aperture;  
a bridging member extending from the inner container to the outer container in a bridging manner so as to be externally exposed through the outer container to be supported by the outer container;

the bridging member extending from the inner container, through the outer container aperture and beyond the wall portion defining the outer container aperture with radial support thereof being provided by the outer container; and

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a cover member for externally covering a portion of the outer container through which the bridging member is exposed and for sealing a space inside the cover member and a space between the inner container and the outer container in a vacuum state between the cover member and the outer container.

9. (Currently Amended) A double-layer vacuum container including a vacuum space between an inner container and an outer container constituting a metal double-layer container, the double-layer vacuum container comprising:

the inner container having a bridging member extending to the outer container in a bridging manner so as to be supported thereby;

the outer container having a wall portion defining an outer container aperture;  
the outer container supporting the bridging member extending from the inner container through a vibration-absorbing portion, the bridging member being externally exposed;

the bridging member extending from the inner container, through the outer container aperture and beyond the wall portion defining the outer container aperture with radial support therefor being provided by the outer container; and

a cover member for externally covering a portion of the outer container through which the bridging member is exposed and for sealing a space inside the cover member and a space between the inner container and the outer container in a vacuum state, between the cover member and the outer container.

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10. (Currently Amended) A double-layer vacuum container including a vacuum space between an inner container and an outer container constituting a metal double-layer container, the double-layer vacuum container comprising:

the inner container having a bridging member extending to the outer container in a bridging manner so as to be supported thereby;

the outer container having a wall portion defining an outer container aperture;

the outer container supporting the bridging member extending from the inner container through a vibration-absorbing portion, the bridging member being externally exposed;

the bridging member extending from the inner container, through the outer container aperture and beyond the wall portion defining the outer container aperture with radial support thereof being provided by the outer container; and

a cover member for externally covering a portion of the outer container through which the bridging member is exposed, a space inside the cover member being a vacuum space.

11. (New) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 3, wherin the bridging member is supported by three or more convex portions of the support member formed by plate working on a cylindrical wall thereof.

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12. (New) The double-layer vacuum container according to claim 11, wherein the support member has a plurality of leg portions formed in a circumferential direction, and is fixed to the wall portion of the outer container with the plurality of leg portions.